

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON AUGUST 3, 2020

The Caddo Parish Commission met in legal and special session on the above date at 12:30 p.m. in the Government Chambers, with President Chavez, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). ABSENT: None (0).

The invocation was given by Mr. Young, and Mr. Epperson led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CERTIFICATE OF TELECONFERENCE

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana has declared a statewide Public Health emergency, inclusive of Caddo Parish, in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor, has further extended that declaration via Proclamations Number 96 JBE 2020 and Number 97 JBE 2020; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 42:17.1 allows members of political subdivisions to participate in its meetings electronically under certain limited circumstances.

THEREFORE, in accordance with the Provisions of R.S. 42:17.1, the presiding officer of the Caddo Parish Commission hereby certifies that this meeting is to address matters that are:

- (a) directly related to the public Commission's response to the Coronavirus Pandemic and are critical to the health, safety, or welfare of the public.
- (b) that if they are delayed will cause curtailment of vital public services or severe economic dislocation and hardship.
- (c) critical to continuation of the business of the Commission and that are not able to be postponed to a meeting held in accordance with the other provisions of Open Meetings Law due to a legal requirement or other deadline that cannot be postponed or delayed by the public body.

Date: July 29, 2020

/s/Mario Chavez Caddo
Parish Commission President

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Ordinance No. 5963 of 2020, an ordinance to set the General Purpose and Special Purpose Millages for providing for millage rate adjustments, as allowed by Article VII, Section 23 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705 (B), levying and imposing taxes and assessments for 2020 on all the property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Substitute motion by Mr. Atkins, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to englobo and move the following ordinances to Thursday's agenda for introduction:*

- *Ordinance No. 5963 of 2020, an ordinance to set the General Purpose and Special Purpose Millages for providing for millage rate adjustments, as allowed by Article VII, Section 23 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705 (B), levying and imposing taxes and assessments for 2020 on all the property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5964 of 2020, an ordinance setting the assessment of property classified as timberlands and to instruct the Assessor to include said assessment on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2020, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5965 of 2020, an ordinance to adopt the values fixed, or to be fixed, by the Louisiana Tax Commission on all assessments for railways and other public service corporations, and to instruct the Assessor to extend such assessments and values on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2020, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5966 of 2020, an ordinance setting the Parish Millage for the purpose of paying principal and interest, due in 2020 on outstanding Parish Bond*

Issues and to instruct the Assessor to include said millage on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2020, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

Mr. Atkins said that the Finance Committee just discussed these ordinances and voted to move them to the full body for consideration.

At this time, Mr. Atkins' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

The Commission then moved onto the next New Business item, *Authorize introduction of Ordinance No. 5967 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the General Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for COVID-19 testing sites and small business support by issuing "COVID Kits" and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*

The Clerk of the Commission pointed out that there is an attachment added to the agenda with an updated budget regarding this ordinance.

Mr. Cawthorne agreed and said that there some of the Commissioners were uncomfortable with the original funding request, so they made some adjustments to the budget. He also pointed out that Dr. Kevil is on the line to answer any additional questions.

Dr. Kevil thanked the Commission for their support for helping fund community testing. He also said that they have come to the end of those funds that were originally allotted. Dr. Kevil also explained that they have had a significant amount of community outreach and the community testing was successful. He also said that they should do nursing home testing in conjunction with LDH, but the community testing has been in conjunction with the Caddo Parish Commission. In Region 7, they done a "good job at controlling the percent positivity in nursing homes", with a percent positive rate of 2-3%, which is well below the 5% that they strive to achieve. He also pointed out that the latest data is showing the that community has a percent positivity of 15% and is continuing to grow. He said that this virus is highly contagious and "really shows not signs of abating".

Mr. Hopkins thanked the Commissioners for decreasing the funding request for this ordinance.

Mr. Burrell said that he has not seen the data with regards to the numbers that Dr. Kevil is quoting, along with the disproportionate number of minorities that are being affected by this based upon the overall numbers of cases that we have. This information would give him a better feel for how the money is being spent and the results they have receiving from it.

Dr. Kevil said that a report was sent to the Commissioners, but will provide it once again. He also said that everything they have done in terms of community outreach has focused on Caddo, and will provide that information as well.

Mr. Burrell also requested that he be invited to the meetings with LSU-Ochsner, since it is in his district.

Mr. Atkins stated that he is trying to get a better feel for how the money flows through the Commission to them. He understands that these funds would likely be reimbursable through the CARES Act. Mr. Atkins then wanted to know if LSU-Ochsner could go straight to the CARES Act funding, rather than flowing through the Parish. Dr. Kevil explained that most of the CARES Act funding was distributed to the State, then distributed from there. He said that they are in constant contact with Capitol Hill, but that is a State priority decision, in term of funding. He further explained that they are working closely with LDH to make sure the funds are available for testing for other areas to do community testing. He said that Caddo and Bossier are "our backyards" so they have focused most of their efforts here.

Mr. Atkins wanted to know if LSU-Ochsner is able to apply directly to the CARES Act rather than going through the Parish. Dr. Kevil said that they get monies from various avenues. He also explained that prior to the implementation of the CARES Act, there was not any money available for testing. He also said that it is controlled at the state level. It is out of my wheelhouse to make those decisions, he said. They can only ask or request. Dr. Kevil also said that it would be within the purview of the Commission to make a concerted effort to ensure this region is receiving all of the necessary dollars in a manner that is commensurate with the population.

Dr. Kevil also explained that the Parish's Finance team, along with Attorney Frazier, meet regularly to go over all of the expenditures so that they meet all of the requirements dictated by the CEA.

Mr. Atkins wanted to know if the funds will be reimbursed by the CARES Act. Dr. Wilson stated that he believes that will.

Mr. Burrell mentioned that it is easier to get CARES Act funding through government funding that through private and nonprofits.

Mr. Taliaferro wanted to know which nursing homes were being tested and how many. He also wanted to know if the Parish is responsible for testing in nursing homes and rehab facilities. Dr.

Kevil stated that the monies coming from the Commission is not involved in any of the nursing home testing; that is strictly and solely coming from LDH. We're testing all of the nursing homes in Caddo Parish and continue to do so on a recurring basis, as well as all of the nursing homes in Region 7 as per the mandate from the Governor to LDH, Dr. Kevil said.

Mr. Taliaferro then wanted to know how long a test was good for. Dr. Kevil said that a test is good for that moment in time. He explained that you could be tested and it be negative, then be exposed to the virus and be infected. He further stated that the level of knowledge about whether people are infected or not is only determined and confirmed by testing and testing on a frequent basis. Mr. Taliaferro understood that as the testing they are funding are for "one person, one test, one day". He also said that he could be tested today, but could get the virus tomorrow, and he would have to be retested and retested. Dr. Kevil pointed out that the virus has an incubation period of 3-5 days.

Mr. Taliaferro also asked if the infection rate of the nursing home is primarily due to the employees bringing the virus in. Dr. Kevil said that there are other ways the virus could be brought into the nursing homes, such as deliveries.

Mr. Taliaferro said that since COVID started, it has not been the goal to eradicate the virus, but it has been the goal to not overwhelm the hospital system with a number of cases. He also said that he is a strong proponent of wearing his masks if it means "getting back to business". Mr. Taliaferro also said that he is not a fan of wearing it outdoors, but will maintain social distancing if he comes in close contact with someone.

Mr. Taliaferro also wanted to know if there was any data in regards to how many deaths Caddo Parish experienced due to the common flu. He also wanted to know if the deaths regarding the common flu primarily affected the people who were aged or had pre-existing medical conditions similar to COVID. Dr. Kevil explained that the flu is less infectious as COVID-19 or SARS COVI-2. The pathology of the flu does affect equally, both elderly, middle-aged, and younger children. The difference between the flu and SARS COVI-2 is that "humanity has seen the flu. Humanity has not seen SARS COVI-2". He also explained that the spike protein of this virus is highly unique, and it ends up becoming a trigger for the immune systems that leads to many of the complications, i.e. cytokine storm, pneumonia, cardiovascular defects, etc. Dr. Kevil said in that regard, it is very different from the flu.

Mr. Taliaferro said that COVID can survive on surfaces, and it could hang in the air for approximately 16 hours. Dr. Kevil explained that the virus is droplet based and that is how it spreads. He also said that there is more and more evidence that is emerging demonstrating that it can also be aerosolized based, which mean these are smaller droplets that can linger in the air for an extended period of time. He further explained that how long it lingers in the air depends on the environment, circulation, open space versus closed space, etc.

Mr. Taliaferro asked Dr. Wilson if this is a "may be or will be" reimbursement from the CARES Act. Dr. Wilson said that they have submitted a request from \$770,000 and received that. They got notification that the second submittal was approved, but have not submitted the \$275,000 the Commission applied to the first round of testing. He said once they receive the invoices, they can submit that and is more than likely to get funded. Dr. Wilson also said that anything related to direct testing or PPE types of expenditures should be reimbursable.

Mr. Young wanted to know how many COVID kits would be given out based on the proposal for this ordinance. Mr. Cawthorne is not 100% sure on how many will be distributed, but based his numbers around the kits costing about \$150-\$200 per kit. So about 40 kits, Mr. Young asked. Mr. Cawthorne agreed.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know if the State could allocate funds to pay for testing in North Louisiana via the LSU Health Center. Dr. Kevil stated that they could not. He further explained that the University itself does not have fund to do the testing, nor will they actually get money through the legislature to conduct testing. He further stated that the LSU system, as a whole, is endeavoring upon a return to campus plan, in which they have to go to the legislature and the Governor to seek financial support.

Mr. Chavez then talked about the Louisiana Mainstreet Recovery Grant which will cover most of the equipment in this ordinance. He further said that the State is funding \$15,000 per small business. Mr. Cawthorne stated that it is up to \$15,000, and it is going towards the replacement of payroll. He also said that the program has two options: one, the small business can itemize their expenses and get up to \$15,000. The second option is to do a quick release, where they do not itemize and automatically receive up to \$5,000. Mr. Cawthorne further stated that fortifying the small businesses in Caddo Parish will be paramount going towards the end of the year.

Mr. Chavez then talked about Compliance Learning Solutions, who offers an online class for employers to show that they're certified in handling COVID scenarios.

Mr. Chavez also said that he and Mrs. Barnett will be meeting with a consultant tomorrow to show the Parish how to maximize the rate of return for the CARES Act.

Mr. Jackson explained that the CARES Act funding is reimbursement for expenses that the Parish has had to deal with directly related to COVID-19. He further explained that Caddo Parish has

over \$30M worth of unencumbered revenue. He said that the Parish will be asking the citizens in November to renew a public health millage. Mr. Jackson also stated that there is a public health crisis going on, and he urged everyone to always “follow the facts” especially with all of the misinformation that is being put out there.

Mr. Jackson also said that not all businesses will receive Mainstreet funding. The treasurer has already noted that there’s not enough money set aside in that bond.

Mr. Jackson also said that there is a demand for testing. He said that every site that at least 150 people show up to get tested at the sites being set up throughout the Parish. He believes that it is very important that the testing continue and make use of the resources that have been allocated. He said that if the Parish does not utilize its CARES Act funding, it does not go back to Washington D.C., the monies will be sent to another Parish in the State of Louisiana. Mr. Jackson also said that they should be utilizing resources that have been set aside to help Caddo Parish residents respond to COVID-19. Mr. Jackson also said that the residents are appreciative for the testing sites.

Mr. Burrell stated that it would be much easier for the money to flow from government entity to government entity rather than a private or nonprofit. Mrs. Barnett explained that the CARES Act does allow for healthcare providers and facilities that provide testing to uninsured to request reimbursement themselves. The Parish can also request reimbursement from CARES Act as well. The deadline for the last expenditure is September 30. She further explained that in order to get reimbursement and for the Parish to claim reimbursement, documentation for what the expenses were used for, as well as an invoice and a cancelled check. She reiterated that all of this has to take place by September 30.

Mr. Atkins said that the current revised budget is \$272,000 which is scheduled to go to testing and will be managed by the Dr. Kevil and the LSUHSC team. Mr. Cawthorne agreed. Of that, \$72,000 is for PPE, hand sanitizer, and signs. Mr. Cawthorne agreed. Mr. Atkins wanted to know how this will be distributed. Mr. Cawthorne said that he has two methodologies on how this could be done. He said that the kits could be divided up equally between the twelve districts, and the Commissioners could distribute them. He said that they could also have a nonprofit manage it. Mr. Atkins pointed out that the first option to split them up evenly between districts may lead to waste because the demand in some districts may not be as great as others. He said that he would like to see a central clearinghouse at the Parish where the businesses call their Commissioners, and the Parish sends them a package. Mr. Cawthorne agreed with that.

Mr. Jackson clarified that LSU Medical School is not a healthcare provider, so they cannot tap into the hospital recovery funds that are set aside for hospitals. He said that they are a teaching institution, so there is not pool of money set aside for them. He also pointed out that those higher education institutions are still grappling with how to safely reopen.

Mr. Jackson also said that expenses has to be incurred in regards to the CARES Act.

Mr. Taliaferro wanted to know what the function of the 100 Men of Shreveport would be. Mr. Cawthorne explained that the 100 Men of Shreveport would be the organizers and facilitators of the event. Dr. Kevil agreed. He also pointed out that many of the National Guard members who have been helping with the testing will be reassigned to overseas in the next few months. He said that they need the 100 Men of Shreveport to help facilitate and organize the event.

Mr. Jackson also said that the 100 Men of Shreveport came along and started testing. He also said that they actually put a fixed site at Galilee every Thursday. He also said that LSU takes the swab and takes it back to the lab and interpret the specimen, but they are not the ones who notify the patients of their results. He said the 100 Men of Shreveport has stepped up to provide these types of services.

Mr. Taliaferro then wanted to know who certifies those people who provide the results. Mr. Jackson said that there is a medical professional who is trained and certified who takes on the medical legal responsibilities. He commended all of those people and organizations who have made the testing sites a success. Mr. Jackson encouraged all to come to a mobile testing site to see the process.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if this round of testing will exclude the Parish employees being at the sites setting up. Mr. Cawthorne stated that it would.

Mr. Johnson also wanted to know if there is a need for the National Guard to be at the sites. Dr. Kevil explained that they are there for multiple reasons, including traffic control and oversight of the testing sites.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if a motion was made. Mr. Chavez said that there wasn’t.

Mr. Young wanted to know what would be expected of a Commissioner with regards to the COVID kits. Mr. Cawthorne suggested that it be posted on the website, the Public Information Officer put out a press release/notification, and the Commissioners make their constituents aware.

Mrs. Barnett said that she reached out to her point of contact with the State with regards of the COVID kits being reimbursed. She indicated that it would be reimbursable, but the Commission

needs make sure that the program and how the businesses are chosen to receive the kits is very well documented. She said that the kits cannot just be given away; there has to be some type of criteria that the business must meet in order to receive the kits. Mr. Chavez requested a guideline regarding this before Thursday's meeting.

Mrs. Gage-Watts wanted to know what type of criteria will be set for the small businesses. Mrs. Barnett said that her contact did not give her exact criteria, but something has to be in place. She also said that she will reach back out to her to see if she can provide examples. Mrs. Gage-Watts asked that this be provided as soon as possible.

Mrs. Gage-Watts stated that she will be abstaining from this vote due to her employment with Ochsner Health.

At this time, it was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Ordinance No. 5967 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the General Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for COVID-19 testing sites and small business support by issuing "COVID Kits" and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda as amended. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1).

The Commission then moved onto the next New Business item, *authorize Resolution No. 58 of 2020, a resolution electing to hold meetings pursuant to Section 17.1 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*.

Mr. Young asked for this resolution to be drafted at a time when he thought they were only going to be able to meet in person, and he knew he could not be there. Mr. Young also pointed out that the language in this document states for various reasons why COVID is a serious threat and why in-person meetings should not happen. He feels that the Commission is doing an exemplary job of running the Parish's business virtually for now.

Mr. Burrell stated that there has been an outbreak on the 5th Floor of Government Plaza. He said that the building should be shut down and cleaned. He also said that Mr. Chavez, as President, has some jurisdiction as it relates to Act 302 to keep the Commissioners safe. You have a responsibility for us, he said, and I will hold you to that responsibility.

Mr. Chavez said that it is his understanding that the Commission can have Zoom meetings, but it can only be of emergency nature. Attorney Frazier stated that Act 302 allows three categories of items on the agenda for virtual meetings, so items on the agenda would have to fall within one of those categories. Mr. Chavez clarified that the Commission is forced to meet in-person if the items on the agenda do not fall within those three categories. Attorney Frazier agreed.

Mr. Chavez also said that he will be writing a letter to the Governor to see if legislation can be drafted to make an amendment to Act 302.

Mr. Epperson said that there were 5 or 6 people who tested positive on the 5th floor in Government Plaza. He also said that when someone tested positive on the 8th floor, the Commission shut down the building to decontaminate and sanitize.

Dr. Wilson said that there is not an outbreak on the 8th floor, and they are in discussions with the City due to positive cases on one of their floors. He also said that he was told by the City that they would be addressing the 5th floor. Mr. Epperson pointed out that the Parish paid for the entire building to be decontaminated. Dr. Wilson said that they have been practicing cautionary measures where everyone has to wear a mask coming in and out of the building, along with disinfecting common areas and door handles.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know who would be interpreting the agenda items to see if they meet those three criteria. Attorney Frazier stated that the President would have to sign the certification certifying that what is on the agenda meets that criteria.

Mr. Johnson explained that one of the criteria states that if it presents a hardship, the item can be placed on the agenda. He said that there are NGO items on the 3:30 agenda and wants to know if that meets the criteria. Attorney Frazier explained that if it presents economic hardship or economic dislocation. Mr. Johnson said that if those NGOs do not receive the funding, they would be presented with an economic hardship. Attorney Frazier explained that it would need to deal with a curtailment of vital public services for severe economic dislocation and hardship. She said that they would need to provide in regard to those, is whatever other resources they would have to continue the services that they provide the necessity of those services whether those services can be provided only by those organization, or if there are the organizations providing the services.

Mr. Johnson is concerned with this because most of the NGOs are small nonprofits who do not have a lot of resources. He said that this is an additional obstacle for those small nonprofits.

Mr. Chavez said that he would like to work with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Atkins on placing the items on the agenda.

Mr. Johnson talked about the quality of life language in the Act. Attorney Frazier said that the problem with that is in addition to being critical to continuing the Commission's business, you have to have a legal requirement of a deadline. Mr. Johnson said that the NGOs have deadlines in order to receive money and submit reports.

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to amend this resolution to urge the State Legislature to allow the Commission to meet by Zoom on any topic as it was being done before.*

Mr. Young explained that the medical circumstances have not changed and might be slightly worse than before. He also said that the public is included in the meetings. He also said that they have exemplary participation from both the Commissioners and the public through their comments during the Zoom meetings. Mr. Young also said that this law either allows the Commission to do their business, or limits their ability to govern in an unreasonable way that lacks a rational basis. If it does limit our ability irrationally, I would like to challenge it in court, he said.

Amendment by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that the Commission would seek to file a legal action in Federal Court.*

Mr. Jackson believes this violates the voting rights of individuals who have elected local officials to represent them. Individuals who are at high risk or individuals who have comorbid diseases, should not have to put their life on the line to come to the job.

He also said that this legislation needs to consider whether there's an outbreak in the building that conflict with the Commission's meeting times. He explained that those six people who tested positive have been on the elevator, used restrooms, etc., so it may not be limited to just those six people. Mr. Jackson asked that Dr. Wilson have a conversation with the City to close the building down and sanitize it.

Mr. Jackson also said that he will not disenfranchise the citizens of District 12 or District 7 or any other district because their Commissioner cannot come to the building. He said that this violates those citizens' voting rights.

Mr. Burrell agreed with Mr. Jackson. He said that if there is an outbreak on the 5th floor, the chances of it being contained to the floor are slim. Mr. Burrell also said that he can make the decisions for himself and his family, but does not need anyone else to make that decision for him. He said that he is not afraid of many things, but he is afraid of this virus because he cannot see it.

Mr. Chavez said that he will do everything that he can to ensure his and the other Commissioners' safety.

Mr. Epperson wanted to know if the Administration would request reimbursement for the sanitation that they completed for Government Plaza. Dr. Wilson stated that they did. Mr. Epperson wanted to know why the City would only disinfect the 5th floor when there were multiple people who tested positive. Dr. Wilson said that he will address it with the City.

Mr. Epperson also said that he will support the motion to file suit, immediately, relative to the situation and concerns that the Commissioners have expressed today. He asked that Legal put it in proper context and move forward with it.

Dr. Wilson reiterated that there is not an outbreak on the 8th floor, but will get with the City to remedy the situation in regards to the facility.

Mr. Johnson pointed out that one of the things that Commissioners are elected to do is public safety. He explained that if the meetings happen in person, then they will be expecting the public to come to the Chambers for public comments. He said that the public could infect the Commissioners, or vice versa. He also said that there is no way to tell if someone is a-symptomatic. He said that it is safer for the public to stay at home and call in and submit their public comments, as it has been done since the pandemic.

He also said that Caddo Parish has 281 deaths and 38 new cases just for today.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that there is no blueprints on handling COVID-19. She said that people enter Government Plaza and cautioned that there could be litigation if a citizen contracts COVID and can prove that it happened in Government Plaza. She urged that an executive decision be made to stay out of the building until it is cleaned properly. Mrs. Gage-Watts said that Government Plaza needs to be closed today.

Mr. Chavez said that he will be in support with passing this to Thursday's meeting, but cautioned the Commissioners into going into litigation. Attorney Frazier said that a resolution would need to be drafted to be added to one agendas on Thursday for a vote.

Mr. Jackson clarified that his motion is to have *Legal get back with the Commissioners with legal proceedings to challenge this law in Federal Court.*

Mr. Atkins wanted to know if this would be a separate item, or if it is added to the motion. Mr. Jackson said that it is added to the item.

Attorney Frazier clarified that the motion is to asking Legal to get with the Commission and provide what is necessary for us to take legal action. She also pointed out that there will be a resolution presented to the Commission.

At this time, Mr. Young's motion carried as amended, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Hopkins, and Lazarus (3). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Atkins would like to be supportive of his fellow colleagues with regards to meeting in person. He believes those concerns are legitimate and suggested that calls be made to the Governor to get this issue resolved. He is not in favor of filing a federal lawsuit though.

Mr. Jackson said that this Act does not take into consideration if there is an outbreak in Government Plaza. He is not sure if the Governor can suspend the law through an executive order. Attorney Frazier said that in Act 302, if the Governor continues certain parts of his proclamation would not be considered in violation of the Act. Mr. Burrell pointed out that several organizations have gone to the Governor, but he did not rescind it. Mr. Jackson said that this is something that the Legislature has done. Mr. Jackson pointed out that he does not want this to be a slight at the Governor or the Legislature.

Mr. Epperson said that the resolution on the floor is sufficient. He also said that they have gone through other avenues, and have been rejected.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. Jake Michaels called in with the following comment:

I don't know what the usual topics of discussion are but I do believe I have something important to speak about. [inaudible] the link to the site. [inaudible] there is a petition of patient abuse and cover up at LSU Hospital. The patient abuse that stopped. That was eight years ago. The thing is, I'm trying to get, hopefully, the patient abuse [inaudible] torture victims. I tried getting help from Ochsner Health Systems. They block people who complain about [inaudible] and Mayor Perkins blocked victims who [inaudible] continue to work through government. They all block victims who speak up about abuse. I've documented all of these things with extensive screenshots. I have conversations between me and Sheriff Prator [inaudible] he looked at the complaint [inaudible]. He doesn't answer [inaudible] Caddo Crime Stoppers. And most of the time Caddo Crime Stoppers block victims [inaudible] at LSU Hospital [inaudible]. I can show you like 500 plus communications concerning that. And Adrian Perkins, Mayor, [inaudible] email me now. [inaudible] none of the emails actually elicit any response concerning [inaudible] ok? And not only that, Sherricka Fields, Chief Financial Officer, that is falsified contact information on the directory at caddo.org. With that being said, Sherricka Fields as the Chief Financial Officer—that's taking away citizens' abilities to make good [inaudible] about funds. I talked to Casey Brown about this because this is all on record and documented in case anyone wants to hear it about the information at Shreveport.gov being fake because its not right for citizens to be redirected to emails that don't [inaudible]. Also, [inaudible] named Angela Hamilton for [inaudible]. I can tell you the email, screenshot, or whatever, but—At this point, the Assistant Commission Clerk advised Mr. Michaels that his 3 minutes was up.

There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk


Mario Chavez
President